



GOVERNMENT OF SINDH
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
PROJECT COORDINATION & MONITORING UNIT
SHARED SERVICES UNIT

Quarterly Newsletter

April-June 2026

PCMU is functional as an integral part of P&D Department, Government of Sindh with Role/Tasks of:

- 1. Project Coordination & Monitoring Unit (PCMU):** Providing implementation management support to two mega projects: Sindh Water & Agriculture Transformation (SWAT) Project and Sindh Barrages Improvement Project (SBIP).
- 2. Shared Services Unit (SSU):** One window quality cross functional support to conceive and conceptualization of new projects and provide startup support in implementation of new development projects.
- 3. Recovery & Reconstruction Unit (RRU):** Coordination and implementation facility support to all 2022 Post Flood Projects in Sindh under 4RF.
- 4. Coordination Desk:** Follow-up implementation actions of approved Sindh R&R Policy-2023. Coordination and Management Support: Updating implementation progress of all ongoing foreign-funded projects in Sindh and participating in projects progress review meetings held at various forums.

Minister P&D

Mr. Jam Khan Shoro



Chairman P&D Board

Mr. Najam Ahmed Shah



Project Coordinator

Mr. Nazeer Memon



KEY HIGHLIGHTS ACHIEVEMENTS

- Honourable Chief Minister Sindh, Syed Murad Ali Shah, accompanied by Minister for Irrigation & P&D, Jam Khan Shoro, visited ongoing Sukkur Barrage Rehabilitation and Modernization Works on 14 June 2026 being implemented under World Bank financed Sindh Barrages Improvement Project.
- SBIP achieved significant implementation milestones, with Guddu Barrage Rehabilitation Works reaching 88% physical progress and Sukkur Barrage Rehabilitation Works achieving 68% physical completion.
- Significant progress was achieved in the implementation of cash subsidies for the remaining eligible small wheat crop farmers under FERC-SWAT in accordance with the decision of the Sindh Cabinet.
- The World Bank upgraded the implementation performance rating of SWAT Project following the successful completion of the Mid-Term Review (MTR) Mission conducted in April 2026.
- The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Pakistan appreciated the efforts of P&D Department for timely start-up and implementation of the recently approved Sindh Coastal Resilience Project (SCRP), jointly financed by IFAD and ADB in association with GCF.
- Minister, Irrigation & P&D, Mr. Jam Khan Shoro, held a meeting with the World Bank team to discuss way forward for award of the Akram Wah Rehabilitation Contract and the finalization and approval of the new Sindh Water Law under SWAT Project.
- Chairman, P&D Board, Syed Najam Ahmed Shah, chaired two special meetings of Project Steering Committee for the SWAT Project and a Joint Project Steering Committee of recently approved Sindh Coastal Resilience Project (SCRP) to review implementation progress and provide strategic guidance.



- Substantial progress was achieved in finalizing the Sindh Water Law, with the drafting team fully mobilized in June 2026 and submitted fourth draft for further review and approval.
- Phase-I Design Report for HAI Program was approved, and the procurement process for Phase-II was initiated to establish the Hydro Agro Informatics Centre.
- Secretary, Irrigation Department, Mr. Zareef Iqbal Khoro, chaired a meeting that approved TORs and implementation framework for the formulation of the Sindh Strategic Water Plan (SSWP).
- Draft TORs for Wheat Procurement Reforms under SWAT Project were developed and submitted in accordance with the decisions of joint meeting chaired by the Chairman, P&D Board.
- SWAT Project Annual Progress Report 2025 and Project Mid-Term Review Report were finalized and circulated among key stakeholders, highlighting project achievements, and future priorities.
- An interactive monitoring dashboard made operationalized at P&D Department to track the implementation of all foreign-funded projects across Sindh, strengthening transparency, coordination, and evidence-based decision-making.
- PCMU continued to provide cross-functional technical support to multiple foreign-funded initiatives through active participation in donor review missions, project steering committee meetings, and project restructuring processes.

PROJECT NEWS & EVENTS

Chief Minister Reviews Progress of Sukkur Barrage Rehabilitation Works:

The Honourable Chief Minister of Sindh, Syed Murad Ali Shah, accompanied by the Minister, Irrigation & P&D, Jam Khan Shoro, Syed Nasir Hussain Shah, Minister, Local Government Members of National Assembly and Provincial Assembly, and the Speaker of the Sindh Assembly etc. visited the ongoing Sukkur Barrage Rehabilitation and Modernization Works on 14 June 2026. The visit provided an opportunity to review the progress of works being undertaken under the Sindh Barrages Improvement Project (SBIP) and reaffirm the Government's commitment to strengthening Sindh's irrigation infrastructure.



High-Level Review Meetings with the World Bank:

During the Mid-Term Review of SWAT Project, the World Bank delegation met with the Minister, Irrigation & P&D, the Chairman, P&D Board and Secretaries of Irrigation and Agriculture Departments. The discussions focused on accelerating the project activities including award of the Akram Wah Rehabilitation Contract, finalizing the draft Water Law, implementing wheat procurement reforms, completion of FERC Payments to leftover farmers and advancing other key project initiatives.



Cash Subsidies Disbursed to Eligible Remaining Farmers:

Following the decision of the Sindh Cabinet dated 31 March 2026, the ADU-SWAT, Agriculture Department, initiated the disbursement of cash subsidies through Sindh Bank to verified leftover beneficiary farmers under Phases I, II, and III, ensuring that all eligible beneficiaries receive project support. Accordingly, the disbursement process has been successfully completed, with cash subsidies amounting to PKR 22,786.79 million disbursed to a total of 249,861 verified beneficiary farmers up to 30 June, 2026.

SWAT Project Steering Committee Holds Special Meetings:

SWAT Project Steering Committee (PSC), chaired by the Chairman, P&D Board Mr. Najam Ahmed Shah, held two special meetings on 1 April 2026 and 22 June 2026, Karachi, participated by Secretaries of Irrigation, Agriculture, Food Departments etc. The Committee considered the request of Agriculture department for appointment of FMS and M&E Specialist from market for ADU based on the recommendation of the selection committee from market. The Committee also discussed and agreed procurement process actions of Akram Wah in accordance with the recommendations of World Bank.



World Bank Upgrades SWAT Project Rating Following Successful Mid-Term Review:

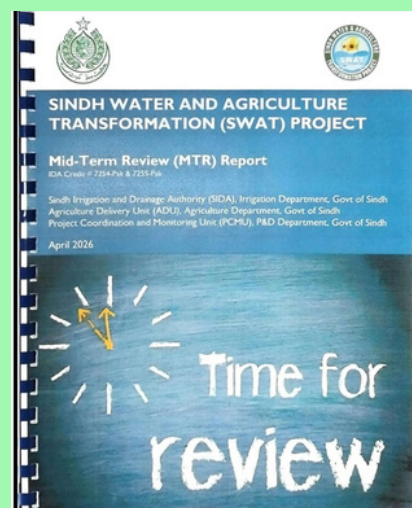
The World Bank conducted Mid-Term Review (MTR) of the Sindh Water and Agriculture Transformation (SWAT) Project from 22 to 30 April 2026 to assess implementation progress and overall project performance. The review covered achievements across all project components, including procurement, financial management, and compliance with environmental and social (E&S) requirements. During the review, the World Bank acknowledged the substantial progress made in several



key areas, including the formulation of the Water Law, implementation of the HAI Program, advancement of water policy reforms, implementation of Farmers Organizations (FOs) sub-projects, progress under the Flood Emergency Response Component (FERC), and activities under the Agriculture Development Support Component (Component 3). In recognition of these achievements and the project's improved performance, the World Bank upgraded the overall implementation rating of the SWAT Project from Moderately Unsatisfactory to Moderately Satisfactory, reflecting the Government of Sindh's continued commitment to advancing sustainable water and agriculture sector reforms.

PCMU Submits Comprehensive Mid-Term Review Report for SWAT Project:

PCMU in collaboration with SWAT Project's implementing units: SIDA and ADU prepared a comprehensive Mid-Term Review (MTR) Report with technical support from FAO-UN. The report, submitted to the World Bank presented the updated status of project implementation, covering physical progress, financial performance, and procurement activities across all project components. It also outlined the implementation roadmap and planned activities through to the project's scheduled completion on 31 December 2028. The report served as a key input for the World Bank's Mid-Term Review mission and demonstrated the Government of Sindh's commitment to effective project implementation, monitoring, and timely delivery of project outcomes.



Site Visit Conducted for Proposed Establishment of HAI Main Centre:

The Project Coordinator, Project Coordination and Monitoring Unit (PCMU), and the Chief Engineer, Barrages Management Unit (BMU), along with their respective teams, visited several potential sites within the Irrigation Department premises at Baloch Colony on 3 June 2026 for the proposed establishment of the HAI Main Centre. During the visit, the team reviewed the suitability of identified locations and discussed the necessary requirements for establishing the facility. The proposed center is expected to support improved water information management, strengthen institutional capacity, and contribute to enhanced water sector planning and decision-making in Sindh.



Progress Achieved in Finalization of Sindh Water Law Draft:

In line with the requirements of the Irrigation Department, Government of Sindh, the drafting Team undertook a comprehensive review of the third draft of Sindh Water Law/Bill, which had been submitted on 25 May 2026. Following detailed consultations and the incorporation of comments and recommendations provided by the Chief Engineers of the Irrigation Department, the revised fourth draft of the Law/Bill was finalized and resubmitted on 7 July 2026 for further process of approval of the Government of Sindh. The submission of the revised draft marks another significant milestone in the Government of Sindh's efforts to establish a modern and comprehensive legal framework for sustainable water resources management, supporting improved governance, efficient water use, and long-term water security across the province.

High-Level Meeting Reviews Progress on Wheat Procurement Reforms Under SWAT:

The Chairman P&D Board presided a high-level joint meeting on 29 April 2026 reviewed progress and discussed the way forward for implementing wheat procurement reform activities under SWAT Project. The reform initiative aims to enhance the efficiency, transparency, and sustainability of wheat procurement in Sindh. The meeting was attended by the Secretaries of the Food and Agriculture Departments, senior officials of the P&D Department, and the World Bank's SWAT



Project team. Following detailed deliberations, the forum agreed to develop the TORs for engaging Transaction Advisory and Implementation Support Services to support the Government of Sindh's Food Department in the implementation of wheat procurement reform activities under the SWAT Project. The proposed advisory support is expected to strengthen institutional capacity and facilitate the effective delivery of the reform agenda.

Secretary Irrigation Chairs Meeting to Approve TORs and implementation framework for formulation of Sindh Strategic Water Plan (SSWP):

Karachi, 16 April 2026: Mr. Zareef Iqbal Khero, Secretary, Irrigation Department, Government of Sindh, chaired a meeting attended by the Project Coordinator, PCMU-SWAT, the FAO-UN technical team, the Project Director, SWAT (Irrigation), and senior officials of the Irrigation Department. Following detailed deliberations, the meeting approved the Terms of Reference for the consultancy services for formulation of Sindh Strategic



Water Plan under SWAT Project and unanimously agreed to proceed with the procurement of consultancy services in accordance with the approved TORs and the agreed implementation framework. The meeting also approved the establishment of a Panel of Experts (PoE) to provide technical oversight, strategic guidance, and quality assurance throughout the preparation of the Sindh Strategic Water Plan, with the objective of ensuring that the Plan is developed in line with national priorities and international best practices

An inception meeting for the FAO-UN Technical Assistance (TA) Contract under the SWAT Project was held on 14th April 2026 at PCMU, Karachi under the chairmanship of the Project Coordinator, and participated by the FAO-UN Islamabad delegation led by Mr. Jemes. During the meeting, participants discussed the objectives, scope of work, implementation strategy, and coordination mechanisms for the effective implementation of the Technical Assistance Contract under the SWAT Project. The deliberations

focused on strengthening institutional coordination, ensuring the timely execution of planned activities, and enhancing collaboration between PCMU and FAO to achieve the project's objectives and expected outcomes.



PCMU Delegation Reviews SWAT Project Progress at ADU Hyderabad Office:

A delegation from PCMU, P&D Department, Government of Sindh, led by the Project Coordinator, visited the Agriculture Delivery Unit (ADU) SWAT Project Office in Hyderabad on 15 June 2026. During the visit, the ADU-SWAT team provided a detailed briefing on the overall project implementation progress and discussions highlighted ongoing efforts to ensure timely completion of project activities and maximize benefits for farming communities. The Project Coordinator, PCMU, appreciated the dedication and efforts of the ADU-SWAT team in improving the project's performance rating, avoiding a potential downgrade, and achieving significant progress across key implementation areas. The visit reaffirmed the importance of continued coordination and collaboration among implementing partners to ensure successful delivery of project objectives.



Key Specialists On boarded to Strengthen ADU Capacity:

The recruitment process for key technical positions within ADU-SWAT was successfully completed through a competitive and transparent selection process. The FMS and M&E Specialist formally joined the ADU in May 2026, further strengthening the Unit's institutional and implementation capacity for effective financial management, performance monitoring, and project delivery.

Progress Achieved in Canal Modernization under the SWAT Project:

Significant progress was achieved under Component-2 (Water Service Delivery) of SWAT Project in advancing the modernization of Farmer Organization-managed distributaries and minors. The Letter of Award for the KGM Minor Modernization Works was issued to the most responsive bidder, marking the commencement of implementation activities. For Thatt Minor, the Bid Evaluation Report is at an advanced stage of finalization, while the Notification of Intention to Award (NOITA) is being processed. In parallel, the draft service agreements for Thatt Minor and Khor Wah were prepared and shared with project stakeholders for review and feedback. To support the next phase of investments, walkthrough surveys of the remaining 12 distributaries/minors were completed, while detailed engineering, agricultural, and social surveys for three additional distributaries/minors are currently underway, laying the foundation for future canal modernization interventions.

Interactive P&D Dashboard Operationalized for Enhanced Project Monitoring:

PCMU functioning as the Shared Services Unit (SSU), successfully facilitated the development and operationalization of an Interactive Planning & Development (P&D) Department Dashboard for all foreign-funded development projects in Sindh. The dashboard provides real-time visibility into project implementation status, key performance indicators, financial and physical progress, and overall project health. The initiative has significantly strengthened project monitoring, reporting, transparency, and evidence-based decision-making across the Province's foreign-assisted development portfolio.

PMS Probationary Officers Visit PCMU-SSU as Part of On-the-Job Training:

Nine probationary officers of the Provincial Management Service (PMS), Batch-2023, visited the Directorate of Sindh Water Sector and Barrages Improvement (PCMU-SSU) on 08 June 2026 as part of their On-the-Job Training and departmental attachment with the Planning & Development Department, Government of Sindh. During the visit, the officers were briefed on the mandate, organizational functions, and key initiatives being undertaken by PCMU-SSU, with particular emphasis on project coordination, monitoring mechanisms, and the implementation of water sector and barrages improvement projects. The visit provided valuable practical exposure to public sector project management, development planning, and institutional coordination mechanisms.



Coordination Support Across the 4RF Portfolio:

PCMU functioning as the Resilient Recovery Unit (RRU) Sindh, continued to provide project preparation and coordination support for all emergency development projects being implemented under the Resilient Recovery, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Framework (4RF) in response to the 2022 floods. The 4RF portfolio currently comprises 14 projects with a cumulative approved cost of US\$ 3,908.49 million, of which US\$ 3,277.89 million (83.86%) is financed through foreign assistance, while US\$ 630.60 million (16.13%) is financed by the Government. During the reporting period, RRU Sindh maintained regular coordination with all Project Implementation Units to ensure the timely submission of monthly 4RF progress reports in accordance with the reporting format prescribed by the Federal Resilient Recovery Unit (Federal RRU). The Unit also coordinated with the Federal RRU regarding the submission of mandatory spatial data to support the enhancement of the GIS-enabled monitoring and decision-support dashboard. In this connection, the Federal RRU convened a virtual coordination meeting with RRU Sindh on 30 April 2026.

Capacity Building and Trainings Initiatives Continue:

To further strengthen institutional capacity, the PCMU organized a series of local training program for implementing partners under the SWAT Project. These initiatives focused on enhancing technical skills, improving project implementation, and promoting sustainable institutional development. The details have been consolidated and circulated in separate newsletter.

Support Provided for Preparation of Budget Estimates 2026-27:

PCMU, in its capacity as the Shared Services Unit (SSU), successfully facilitated the preparation and submission of the Revised Budget Estimates for FY 2025-26 and the Budget Estimates for FY 2026-27 for all foreign-funded development projects in Sindh. Through a series of coordination meetings convened by the P&D Department, the SSU provided analytical and technical support to ensure the timely consolidation, review, and submission of budget estimates.

HAI Phase-I Design Report Approved:

The Phase-I Design Report for the Hydro Agro Informatics (HAI) Program, prepared by the project consultants, received formal approval from both the HAI Committee and the SWAT Project Steering Committee (PSC), paving the way for implementation of the program.

SWAT Project Annual Progress Report 2025 Prepared and Circulated:

In accordance with the requirements of the SWAT Project, the PCMU with technical support from FAO-UN and in coordination and consultation with project partners, SIDA and ADU prepared SWAT Project Annual Progress Report 2025. The report was finalized following consultations with the World Bank and incorporated the comments and feedback received from the Bank. Subsequently, the Annual Progress Report was circulated on 7th June, 2027 among the project partners and relevant stakeholders. The World Bank acknowledged receipt of the report and appreciated the timely submission of report.

Government of Sindh Advances Coastal Resilience Through Multi-Partner Initiative:

The Government of Sindh is implementing a series of strategic initiatives to enhance the livelihoods and resilience of communities across the province's coastal region in collaboration with its development partners. A flagship initiative under this vision is the Sindh Coastal Resilience Project (SCRP), which is being implemented with financial support from ADB in partnership with GCF and IFAD. The project is designed to strengthen the key building blocks of climate resilience across Sindh's vulnerable coastal areas. Under the IFAD-financed component, the project focuses on improving livelihoods and developing community infrastructure in the coastal districts of Badin, Sujawal, and Thatta, enabling local communities to better adapt to the impacts of climate change. Complementing these efforts, the ADB- and GCF-financed component supports both grey and green infrastructure investments to enhance drainage systems, strengthen flood protection measures, and improve water management efficiency, contributing to sustainable and climate-resilient coastal development.

First Steering Committee Meeting of Sindh Coastal Resilience Project:

The inaugural meeting of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) notified by Government of Sindh for the recently approved Sindh Coastal Resilience Project (SCRP) was held on 22 June 2026 at PCMU, Karachi, under the chairmanship of the Chairman, P&D Board. The Committee discussed implementation arrangements and outlined priorities for the project's successful commencement. The SCRP Project is being financed jointly by ADB in association with GCF and IFAD with two separate PC-Is. The IFAD financed project



covers the Livelihood & Community Infrastructure activities to enhance the resilience of coastal communities in three coastal districts of Badin, Sujawal, and Thatta against climate change impacts. In parallel, a separate ADB and GCF finance project is also launched for improve drainage, flood protection, water management efficiency improvement and mangroves rehabilitation in these three districts.

IFAD Country Director Reviews Start-Up Progress of Sindh Coastal Resilience Project:

The Country Director IFAD for Pakistan Ms. Fernanda Thomaz da Rocha met with Mr. Najam Ahmed Shah, Chairman, P&D Board, Government of Sindh, and Mr. Nazeer Ahmed Memon, Project Coordinator, PCMU on 23 June 2026 to review the start-up progress of the newly approved IFAD-financed Sindh Coastal Resilience Project (SCRP) and discuss the project's implementation roadmap. During the meeting, the IFAD delegation appreciated the Government of Sindh's commitment to expediting the project's start-up activities, particularly acknowledging the leadership and support of the Chairman, P&D Board, in placing implementation on a fast track. Both sides also agreed to jointly organize the official project launch workshop in September 2026, in collaboration with the project's development partners, to formally initiate implementation and strengthen coordination among all stakeholders.





Significant Milestones Achieved under the Sindh Barrages Improvement Project:

The Sindh Barrages Improvement Project (SBIP) continued to achieve significant implementation milestones during the reporting period. Rehabilitation works at Guddu Barrage progressed steadily across three contract packages (G2, G3, and G3A), with the main G2 contract for gate replacement reaching 89% physical completion and remaining on schedule for completion by March 2027. The Right T.J. Spur (G3A) contract to complete previous leftover works, also recorded substantial progress, achieving 94% physical completion. At Sukkur Barrage, rehabilitation works reached 68% physical completion, while the Model Study Contract remained under active and work on the Riverine Management component is supporting the Sindh Wildlife Department's efforts to rescue Indus dolphins.

Editorial Board:

Mr. Ghulam Haider Qureshi (Convenor)
Mr. Ali Channa (Member)
Mr. Shafique ur Rehman Jamro (Member)
Ms. UM E Rubab (Member)

Advisors:

Prof. Bashir Ahmed Soomro
Mr. Dodo Chandio

A World Bank mission undertook a formal Implementation Support Mission from June 16 to 18, 2026 of Sindh Barrages Improvement Project to review the progress of project implementation and assess the results achieved since the previous mission conducted in December 2025. During the mission, detailed discussions were held on the progress of ongoing rehabilitation and improvement works at the Guddu and Sukkur Barrages. The mission also reviewed activities under Component B, focusing on improved barrage operations, including flow measurement, sediment management, maintenance, and emergency preparedness for the Guddu, Sukkur, and Kotri Barrages. In addition, the mission assessed institutional arrangements for enhanced barrage operations through the Barrage Management Unit (BMU), along with environmental and social safeguards, fiduciary compliance, and the management of security risks associated with project implementation. The mission built upon the findings of the field visit conducted on May 21–22, 2026, and reaffirmed the commitment of the Government of Sindh and the World Bank to the timely and effective implementation of the project.



DIRECTORATE OF SINDH WATER SECTOR & BARRAGES IMPROVEMENT

+9221 9920 5862 | +9221 9920 5863 | +9221 3587 32142 | info@pcmu.gos.pk | Plot No:13, Block-8, Sindh Barrages Improvement Project, 2nd floor of Bureau of Statistics Building, Chaudhary Khaliq-uz-Zaman Road, Clifton, Karachi, 75600
| 9AM – 5PM (Mon – Fri)